

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods to at least partially reduce a niobium oxide are described. In one embodiment, a milling process is described wherein the surfaces of the mill in contact with the starting metal oxide, getter material, and/or oxygen reduced metal oxide are the same as the material being milled. Other milling techniques and products are also described.

1. A method of reducing a niobium oxide, comprising:  
a) providing a niobium oxide;  
b) providing a mill;  
c) providing a getter material;  
d) providing an oxygen reduced metal oxide;  
e) providing a material being milled;  
f) milling the niobium oxide, the getter material, the oxygen reduced metal oxide, and the material being milled in the mill;  
g) obtaining a reduced niobium oxide.